

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
Development Services Department
M E M O R A N D U M

TO: PDSD Associates

FROM: Roderick Sanchez, AICP, CBO, Director and Building Official

DATE: April 29, 2009

FILE: Code Interpretations Manual, Webpage

INTERPRETATION NUMBER: CI2009-002

TITLE: Gray Water Provisions on Residential Applications.

**CODE/
EDITION:** 2006 Uniform Plumbing Code as amended by COSA

PURPOSE: To clarify the acceptable provisions regarding the use of grey water on residential applications.

QUESTION: Can I discharge the gray water from a residential washing machine directly onto the ground surface on the exterior of a residence?

ANSWER: Yes. Gray water may be discharged directly onto the ground surface on the exterior of a residence under the following conditions:

- Limited to single family dwellings only.
- Irrigated areas must be in a fenced-in area and in control of the occupant of that residence. The area must be limited use and access by residents, pets, and foot traffic.
- Cannot be used during times of rain.
- Irrigation must not create a public health nuisance such as surface ponding.
- The irrigated area must support plant growth such as grass, bushes, or be overlaid with a vegetative cover.
- The discharge point of the hose shall be kept a minimum of 10 ft. from property lines.
- The Director of the Health Department may suspend this practice if he determines that it creates a negative impact on the community health.



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